U.S. Farm security administration.

PROGRESS

OF

RURAL REHABILITATION

REGION

V

CONTENTS

PROGRESS OF R. R. CLIENTS

FROM

1935 TO 1937

We are presenting a few pertinent facts showing the accomplishments of R. R. clients during the past three years in Region V.

We have attempted also to give a brief outline of the farm and home management program in Region V which were responsible to a large extent for the progress that has been made by these families.

All data given in this report represents an average for all clients in the Region and is taken from the farm and home plans.

FARM MANAGEMENT

Of the various phases of our Rehabilitation program, we have placed most emphasis on the importance of good farm management. If these families are to be rehabilitated on the farm, it is our feeling that this can only be accomplished by following good sound farm management. One of our biggest problems in the development of a sound farm management program has been to secure adequate and suitable land for the family. The fact that no rent was paid by Rural Rehabilitation clients during the first year of the program and the further fact that all of the clients during the first year came to Rural Rehabilitation directly from relief, has made it difficult for us to secure good land in competition with other tenants. This condition has improved somewhat but we think it only fair to say that so far Rural Rehabilitation clients have not been able to get the best land. It has been our general policy that we not attempt rehabilitation on sub-marginal land but apparently the various interpretations of our farm supervisors as to just what sub-marginal land is has caused some violations of this policy.

In the development of a sound farm management program we have placed emphasis, first, on the production of sufficient food and feed to meet the home needs, and, second, on the production of sufficient cash crops to retire the loan and provide some of the necessities of life. Through our program of supervision all clients are required to follow recommendations of the Experiment Stations and Extension Service.

The following phases of good farm management have received most attention during the years 1936 - 1937:

Land:

Definite improvement has been made in the kind of land rented by RR clients in Region 5 during 1937. Considerable effort has been made to see that no loans be made to clients that were on sub-marginal land. It is hoped that clients have been able to get land that is on par with that rented by other tenants in 1937. This statement being based on the fact that clients have been more carefully selected, have better livestock and farming equipment, and are employing much better farming practices than in the past.

Soil Building:

The fact that approximately 10% of all money loaned in Region 5 during 1936 was spent for stock feed will indicate the importance of increasing the production of feed products, especially corn. Considerable effort has been made to correct this condition by encouraging clients to plant Winter Legumes. Experiment Station data shows that corn yields can be increased 20 or more bushels per acre if it is grown where a good crop of Winter Legumes has been turned under.

For instance 2100 clients in Alabama planted a total of 8000 acres of Vetch, Austrian Winter Peas and Crimson Clover during 1936. The increase in corn yields will total 200,000 bushels which at present market price will be $300,000.

The real significance of this practice is more clearly defined by the fact that less than 1 percent of the 2100 clients had ever planted Winter Legumes in the past.

Practically every client in the Region planted summer legumes of some kind. It is by this practice that we have been able to increase the feed supply considerably, especially feed for cattle. It has also done considerable good as a soil building crop as well as providing additional income to a very large number of clients from the sale of seed. The total income from the sale of seed Soybeans, Cowpeas, and Crotolaria by RR clients throughout the Region will approximate $100,000.

Varieties:

The use of pure varieties of cotton that are recommended by the Experiment Station for each particular locality has no doubt brought the biggest saving to RR clients of any farm management practice used in 1936. All clients throughout the Region were encouraged to use pure seed of a variety recommended by the Experiment Station for the particular locality in which he farmed. As a result of this practice, clients who used pure seed actually received a premium of from $2.10 to $4.40 per bale due to better staple cotton.

In Alabama alone 9825 of the 13,452 clients used pure varieties of cotton. A total of 46,485 bushels of seed were used, 11,391 of which came direct from the original breeder. The premium received by these clients as a result of better staple cotton amounted to more than $53,000.

This does not take into consideration the increase in yield that was obtained as a result of better varieties of cotton.

All clients having seed that came direct from the breeder were urged to gin their cotton separately so that the seed might be kept pure. These seed were then kept to be distributed among other clients this year. 40,806 bushels of pure seed have been saved by clients and will bring them a total income of $45,000.

The increase in income from the use of better varieties of cotton are just as pronounced in the other states in Region 5 as in Alabama.

Good results have also been obtained by the use of pure varieties of corn and other field crops.

It is well to mention that a very small percent of the RR clients ever used pure varieties of cotton and corn that were best suited to their particular locality before coming on the program.

Approximately ninety percent of the clients in Region 5 will use pure varieties of cotton in 1937.

Fertilizers:

A very careful analysis is made as to the fertilizer requirements of each client throughout the Region to see that they are using the kind of fertilizer for the various crops that are recommended by the Experiment Stations in each state. We realize that soil fertility in Region 5 is too low for economical production without the use of commercial fertilizers of the right kinds and amounts.

To show the actual progress and savings that have been made as result of the use of better fertilizers, we quote the followings from Alabama:

12,106 of the 13,452 clients used a total of 12,000 tons of 6-8-4 fertilizers or its equivalent under cotton. This fertilizer gives a net profit of $27.66 per ton over 3-8-5 or 4-8-4, the brands commonly used throughout the state. It is safe to say that the increase in yield as a result of the use of this fertilizer would amount to $331,920.00.

Reports from each state in Region 5 show that 80 percent of all clients on the program followed recommendations of the Farm Management Specialist as to the use of the right kind and amount of fertilizer for all field crops such as cotton, corn and peanuts.

Livestock and Farm Equipment:

It has been the policy to provide each client with good work stock and farm equipment. However, each client presents an individual problem in so far as livestock and farm equipment requirements are concerned. A careful analysis is made on each case and recommendations are made to best suit the man and the land that he is farming.

Approximately 5,000 young brood mares have been placed with RR clients during 1936 in Region 5. This will give clients an opportunity to produce a good mule colt each year without necessarily interfering with the crop plan.

Cooperative Jacks have been placed in the communities where mares were placed in order that all clients might have an opportunity to breed their mares to a good jack at a reasonable charge.

It is estimated that this practice will increase the income of the 5,000 clients approximately $240,000 annually.

The introduction of these brood mares and good Jacks into Region 5 will no doubt be a big asset to the Rural Rehabilitation program as well as to farmers not on the program since one of the largest cash expenditures of farmers in the Region each year is for work animals.

Subsistence Livestock:

Careful consideration has been given to the necessary requirements for subsistence livestock for each family on the program. Provisions are made in all Farm Plans for the purchase of cows, hogs, and chickens where sufficient feed is available to make it practical.

At present 75 percent of all clients in Region 5 have a cow, hog and chickens. We feel that it is not a sound farm management practice to attempt rehabilitation of a family without a fairly well balanced subsistence livestock program.

Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina have shown considerable progress in getting clients set up with sufficient livestock to adequately supply home needs and have a surplus for market. Many clients in these states are now receiving a large portion of their cash income from hogs, poultry and eggs.

Home Garden:

No Farm Plan is considered sound in Region 5 unless adequate provisions are made for an all year garden. We are conservative in stating that 80 percent of all clients produced a good garden this year. The lowest value that can be given on all year garden including the truck patches such as potatoes, cane and etc., would be $100.00. The farm plans that are being prepared for 1937 show clearly the progress that has been made in getting better home gardens.

Farm Record Keeping:

Little progress has been made to date in getting RR clients to keep a complete Farm Record Book. However, we expect to show marked improvement this year. Each client will be furnished a simple Record Book giving detail instructions as to how it should be kept.

All clients in the state of Florida were furnished with simple Farm Record Book during 1936 and result to date indicate that a very large percent will be completed. We feel that these records will be of valuable service to the client as well as to the farm supervisors.

FARM DEBT ADJUSTMENT

The Farm Debt Adjustment Section of the Rural Rehabilitation Division renders service in the voluntary adjustment of delinquent farm indebtedness and the restoring of debt-paying attitudes and ability.

Statistics tell only a portion of the story, but the following table reflects some of the accomplishments of Farm Debt Adjustment. This is a consolidated report for Region V covering the period from September 16, 1935 through March 31, 1937.

Number of counties in Region V	339
Number of Voluntary County FDA Committees organized	334
Cases before committees for consideration	9,618
Cases reported adjusted	6,044
Cases of R. A. Clients adjusted (included in above)	3,282
Cases considered and dropped	1,174
Cases pending (as of April 1, 1937)	2,400
Indebtedness prior to adjustment of cases adjusted	$9,308,703
Indebtedness following adjustment	$7,516,050
Debt Reduction	$1,792,653
Taxes paid as result of adjustments	$203,802
Acreage operated	598,825
Average indebtedness per adjusted case prior to adjustment	$1,541
Average indebtedness per adjusted case after adjustment	$1,244
Average reduction per settled case	$297
Percentage reduction	19.3
Average acres operated per case	99

The expenses of the Farm Debt Adjustment Personnel, the out-of-pocket expenses of the County FDA Committeemen, and other miscellaneous expenses, cost approximately one and one-third percent of the original indebtedness represented in the cases adjusted.

As a result of the adjustments made, approximately one dollar and seventy-five cents of delinquent taxes are paid into state and local taxing units for every dollar spent on farm debt adjustment activities.

Farm Debt Adjustment has prevented foreclosures, restored the morale of farmers who were overcome by debt, given creditors an opportunity to obtain orderly liquidation of amounts owed them, and prevented what might have been costly litigation.

ALABAMA PROGRESS REPORT

	1935	1936	1937
Case Load	13259	13451	12000
Average Loan	$225.00	$186.00	$235.00
Average Cash Farm Income	$ 91.00	$226.27	$460.00 Est.
Net Worth	$ 3.03	$317.07	$362.00
% Clients having Mules or Mares	13%	14.8%	81.37%
% Having Steers	87.0%	85.2	18.63
% Having Milch Cows	47.5%	63.1	79.1
% Having Hogs	61.1%	77.5	83.3
% Having Brood Sows	19.2%	22.5	42.1
% Having Hens	79.1	90.9	95.6
Total net worth	$40,174.77	$3,043,557.77	$4,344,000.00

Total increase net worth from 1935 to 1937 $4,303,825.23

FLORIDA PROGRESS REPORT

	1935	1936	1937
Case Load	6984	5479	4238
Average Loan	$183.66	$186.24	$246.68
Average Cash Farm Income	$239.36	$462.24	$816.62
Net Worth	$251.86	$1,118.71	$1,531.14
% Clients having Mules or Mares	60.9	73.4	84.2
% Having Steers	9	5.9	2.5
% Having Milch Cows	50.9	93	89.7
% Having Hogs	63.4	72.6	81.4
% Having Brood Sows	60.1	71.2	77.7
% Having Hens	77	88.7	97.9
Total net worth	$1,758,990.24	$6,129,412.09	$6,488,971.32

Total increase net worth from 1935 to 1937 $4,729,981.08

51% R. R. Clients in Florida are landowners.

GEORGIA PROGRESS REPORT

	1935	1936	1937
Case Load	12,981	11,511	10,500
Average Loan	$335.00	$255.00	$212.00*
Average Cash Farm Income	175.15	210.00	260.00 Est.
Net Worth	35.00	150.00	250.00
% Clients having mules or mares	99.5%	99.5%	100%
% Having Steers	.5%	.5%	0
% Having Milch Cows	50%	75%	95%
% Having Hogs	30%	75%	85%
% Having Brood Sows	10%	40%	65%
% Having Hens	40%	75%	95%
Total net worth	$454,335.00	$1,726,650.00	$2,625,000.00
Total increase from 1935 to 1937	$2,170,665.00		

* Average loan 1937 does not include rent of land.
1935 and 1936 loan includes rent.
Average income 1937 is in addition to rent.

SOUTH CAROLINA PROGRESS REPORT

	1935	1936	1937
Case Load	5394	6468	6358
Average Loan	$364.36	$317.66	$257.74
Average Cash Farm Income	$264.92	$284.52	$506.50
Net Worth	$ 33.63	$257.17	$359.14
% Clients having Mules or Mares	85%	95%	99%
% Having Steers	12%	5%	1.5%
% Having Milch Cows	53%	71%	83%
% Having Hogs	49%	70%	80%
% Having Brood Sows	23%	45%	54%
% Having Hens	75%	88%	98%
Total net worth	$181,400.22	$1,663,375.56	$2,283,412.12
Total increase from 1935 to 1937	$2,102,011.90		

LOANS AND REPAYMENTS 1936

State	Amt. Loan Payments	Amt. Collected	% Collections
Alabama	$2,501,955.71	$1,646,887.00	65.82
Georgia	$2,675,278.53	$1,767,059.85	65.30
South Carolina	$2,078,319.60	$1,221,296.13	58.76
Florida	$1,041,047.60	424,743.76	40.80
Totals	$8,296,601.44	$5,059,986.74	60.99%

Due to overlapping of 1936 and 1937 loan payments the above is a very close estimated average of loans and repayments.

REGIONAL SUMMARY OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA
REGION V

RR CHILDREN SCHOOL AGE

STATE	IN SCHOOL	PERCENTAGE	OUT OF SCHOOL	PERCENTAGE
Alabama	18,349	90.40	1,947	9.60
Florida	9,078	89.75	1,037	10.25
Georgia	20,381	82.84	4,223	17.16
South Carolina	11,915	88.88	1,491	11.12
Total	59,723	87.29	8,698	12.71

WORK STOCK PROGRAM

The largest individual cash item in starting a client on the Rural Rehabilitation program is that of work stock, especially where mules were purchased. The scarcity of good mules together with the increase in demand has made it very difficult for RR clients to get the kind of work stock needed. It has been necessary for a large percent of the RR clients in Region V to plow steers or plug mules which has limited the cash income of the client.

In an effort to correct this condition, plans were made whereby RR clients could sell their steers and plug mules and buy good young brood mares. Five thousand mares were bought by clients in Region V for 1937. These mares have been bred and it is expected that a good mule colt will be produced each year which will provide the client with good work animals and also give additional cash income which is badly needed.

More than 50 cooperative jacks have been purchased and placed in communities where they will serve the largest number of RR clients.

The progress of this program is shown in the following pictures and comments.

A. B. Cowart
Pike County

Troy, Alabama

RR Client

Cooperative Jack

Hugh H. Horn
Clay County

(Cooperative Jack)
Lineville, Alabama

32 mares bred through March 31, 1937.

J. W. Boswell (Cooperative Jack)
Geneva County Hartford, Alabama

18 mares served through March, 1937.

J. Terrell Morris (Cooperative Jack)
Geneva County
Geneva, Alabama

12 mares bred through March 31, 1937.

A. V. Barker (Cooperative Jack)
Randolph County
Wedowee, Alabama, Route 1

39 mares bred since August, 1936 through March, 1937.

C. D. Eubanks RR Client
Geneva County Slocomb, Alabama

Cooperative Bull

This client purchased pure bred Hereford bull large enough for service in July, 1936, but the bull died, having a $25.00 balance on loan made, he purchased this young bull which is now large enough for service.

Charlie Burton RR Client
Pike County Troy, Alabama, Route 5

Mare and mule colt paid $135.00 for mare bred to Jack. Colt 12 days old and mare bred again to cooperative Jack in Troy, Alabama. County Supervisor states "he is a different man to that taken on in 1936."

Curtis Thorn RR Client
Geneva County Geneva, Alabama, Route 1

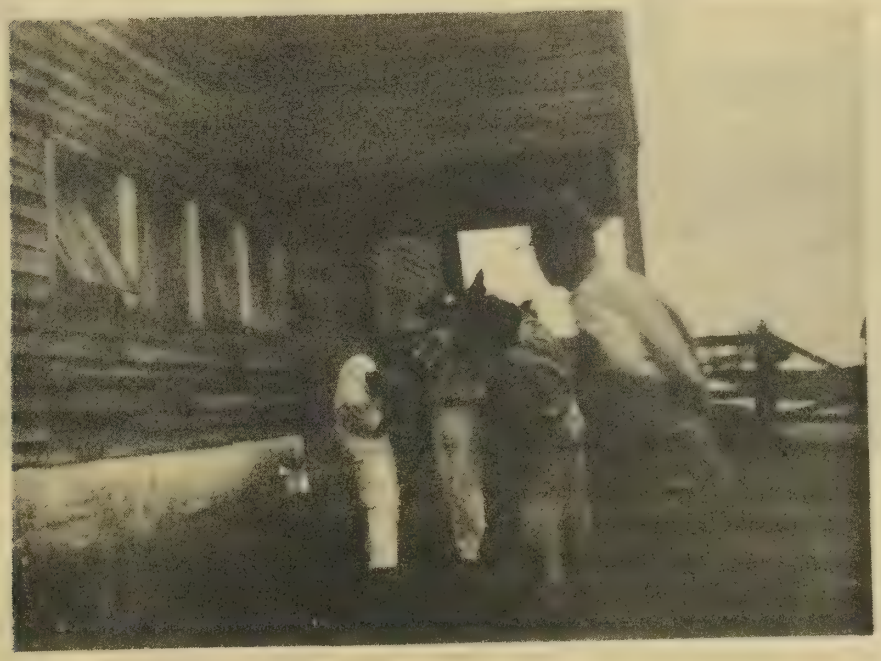
3 year old mare and bred to jack. Made good crop with steer 1936 sufficient to support wife, three children and mother. His landlord asked him to remain on his farm due to his good work. Appreciates assistance given by RR program.

Vilas Brewer RR Client
Clay County Ashland, Alabama
Mare 5 years old bred to Hugh H. Horn's Cooperative Jack. He refused to trade his mare for mule valued at $216.00. Third year on program and is making good.

Garland Vickers (Mare and colt) RR Client
Henry County Abbeville, Alabama, Route 1
Left, L. M. White, County Agent, Henry County, and right, Henry County RR Supervisor. This client started on program in 1934 with nothing except wife and family. Plowed steer two years. Made last year's with steer 2 bales cotton, 2 tons peanuts and plenty of feed. Entire family very responsive to RR program.

LIVESTOCK CLINIC

Livestock clinic being held in Tallapoosa County, Alabama, for RR clients. Each RR client may secure service at these clinics for 50¢, which is conducted by licensed veterinarian monthly. A thorough inspection is made of each work animal and treatment made if necessary. As result of these clinics no loss of workstock has been experienced this year.



Floating mare's teeth at RR clinic.

C. M. Carter RR Client
Geneva County Hartford, Alabama, Route 1

Sow that he traded ten bales peanut hay for.

C. M. Carter (Hogs) RR Client
Geneva County Hartford, Alabama, Route 1

This client now has 16 hogs seven of this number being sows. Five already bred. Plowed steer last year and worked about 15 acres of land making 3 bales cotton on 3 acres; 70 bushels corn on 6 acres; and 3¼ tons peanuts on 5 acres. Steer traded in on mule for 1937.

Wiley Adams RR Client
Pike County, Alabama

Mare and colt purchased December, 1936 for $135.00. Has refused $75.00 for 10 months old colt and not interested in selling for $100.00

Bill Starlin (Mares) RR Client
Henry County Abbeville, Alabama, Route 1

This man came on program last year with almost nothing. He and family plowed steers last year with good results considering poor soil. He has moved to better place and with help of one boy and two mares cultivating 65 acres of land in 1937. Both mares will be bred to cooperative jack in Abbeville.

Murphy and Homer Edwards RR Clients
Pike County, Alabama

Turning Austrian Winter peas with mares purchased December, 1936. Both mares to drop colt soon.

Murphy and Homer Edwards RR Clients
Pike County, Alabama

Austrian Winter peas

These peas will supply nitrogen for corn crop to follow without any additional fertilizer. No fertilizer applied in front while in the back 600 pounds basic acid per acre to secure maximum growth.

This mare was made winning champion at Tallapoosa County Horse Show, held in Dadeville this spring, and is owned by RR client in that County.

Mare and colt winners at Tallapoosa County Horse Show and is owned by RR client in that County. He refused $75.00 for this colt at that time.

Steers above owned by RR clients in Tallapoosa County, Alabama, being traded for mares below.

J. Terrell Morris (Mule colts) RR Client
Geneva County
Geneva, Alabama

Lewis E. Watson (Hogs) RR Client
Geneva County Samson, Alabama, Route 3

Owns one pure bred sow and boar along with 5 other hogs. Landlord built new pasture woven wire fence for this client, since he was working so hard to get back in better shape again.

H. J. Short (Mare) RR Client
Clay County Pyriton, Alabama

Mare bred to cooperative Jack. Owns two mares after working steers for two years.

Tom Gillum (Mare) RR Client
Clay County Lineville, Alabama

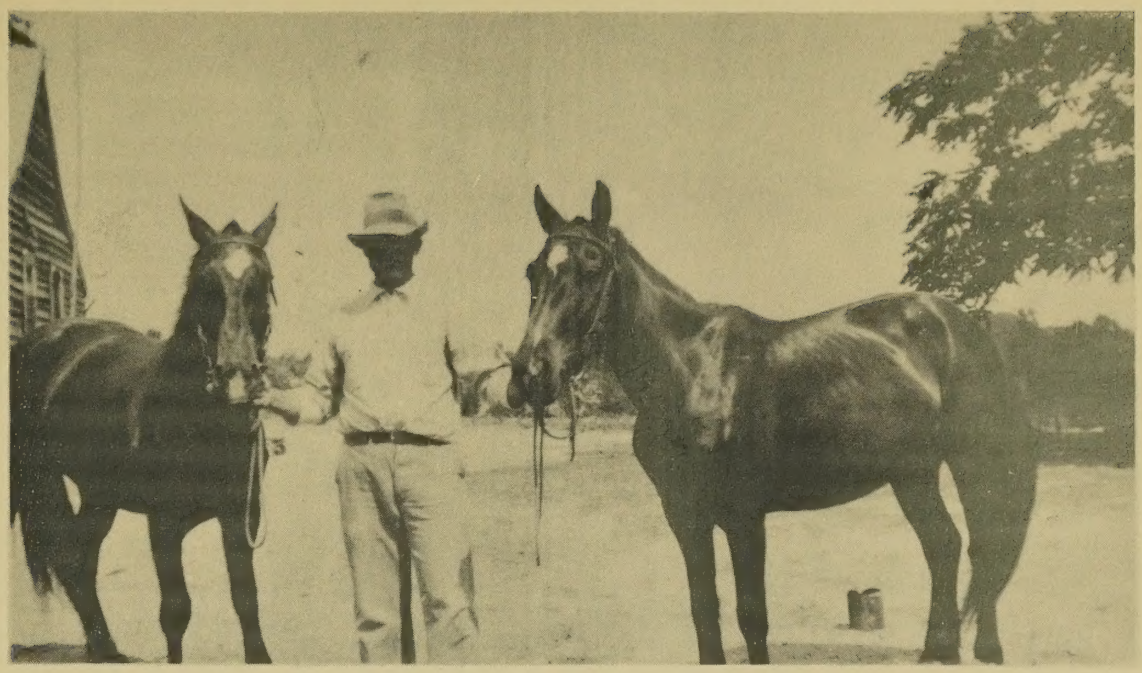
Worked steers two years and is well pleased with mare; plans to breed to Jack.

M. T. Gaddy (Mare and day old colt) RR Client
Pike County Troy, Alabama, Route 5

Second crop with mares. Another mare bred to drop colt in June. This was the first pair of mares bought in Pike County by RR client in 1936.

Lewis E. Watson (Mare) RR Client
Geneva County Samson, Alabama, Route 3

Third year on program worked steers two years and says they saved his family. Has three boys and plans to raise a mule colt for each son. Made cash crop income of $505.00 in 1936 with steers.



Oscar Culpepper RR Client
Henry County Abbeville, Alabama, Route 1

Mares bred to Jack -

This man started with steers and made good however last year with these mares his cash crop income was $618.00 in addition sufficient feed for 1937 crop. This family shows wonderful improvements and appreciates assistance of RR program.

Marion Cole RR Client
Pike County Linwood, Alabama

Mare 5 years old, colt 3 weeks old.

Owns another mare that will drop colt in June. Mare already bred to cooperative Jack in Troy. This client on third year and had cash income of $297.50 last year. County RR Supervisor, Pete Brown behind mare.

Owner Cullpepper
Henry County
Abbeville, Alabama, Route 1

ER Client

Mares bred to Jack -

This man started with sheets and made good harvest last year with these mares his cash crop income was $814.30 in addition sufficient feed for 1957 crop. This family shows wonderful improvements and appreciates assistance of ER program.

Marion Dale
Pike County
Linwood, Alabama

ER Client

Mare 8 years old. colt 3 weeks old.

Came another mare that will drop colt in June. Mare minority food in cooperative farm in Troy. This client on third year and has been income of $1297.50 last year. County ER Supervisor, Pete Brown helped more.